

Advertising Alley

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Connie J. Butcher- Attorney at Law
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 website: trentbutcherlaw.com
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 Cell Phone: 630-605-7781
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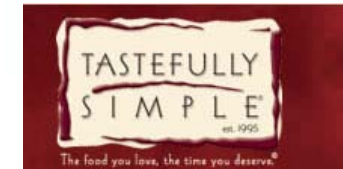
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Somerfield News

News that matters.



March 2011

Neighborhood Real Estate

Homes that are on the market in your Neighborhood with the MLS are:

Address	Bedrooms	Model	Bath	Price
1473 Schafer Ave.	3	Newberry	2.1	\$238,900
1526 Schafer Ave.	3+	Lakewood	2.1	\$219,900
1513 Schoenherr Ave.	3	Brentwood	2.1	NEW-\$249,900
★ 748 Dalton Ln.	4	Monticello	3.1	PC - \$345,210
807 Sapphire Dr.	4	Sutton	2.1	PC - \$250,000
1474 Glenside Dr.	3	Brentwood	2.1	PC-\$239,900
1430 Glenside Dr.	4	Sutton	2.2	PC - \$284,000
1533 Glenside Dr.	4	Hanover	2.1	\$289,900

Homes that are currently under contract in your Neighborhood with the MLS are:

★ 1482 Glenside Dr.	4	Durham	2.1	SS-\$229,900
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Homes that have closed in the last month in your Neighborhood with the MLS are:

No homes have closed in the last month

★ = My Listing ~ = My Sales

PC = Price Change BOM = Back on Market NEW = New listing on Market F = Foreclosure
 SS = Short Sale BO = Bank Owned TEMP = Off the Market Temporally
 Source Multiple Listing Service of Northern Illinois- March 6th, 2011

Presented By:
Donna J. Hahn

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Donna Hahn

"Professionalism with a Personal Touch."



Want to receive our newsletter via e-mail?

Send us the e-mail address you want to receive the newsletter on to the above e-mail address, and we will send you not only the newsletter, but a FREE CHILI'S KID'S MEAL coupon also. It's as simple as that.

Kid's Meal Coupons courtesy of Chili's Naperville.

Building a healthier diet? Foods and beverages both matter

With children getting back to the books across the country and moms re-organizing extracurricular schedules, maintaining a healthy lifestyle is more important than ever at school and in the home. Even with busy back-to-school schedules, it's important to eat and drink healthfully. Incorporating healthy eating and drinking habits into this year's routine can be easy - and rewarding. For instance, with a few simple substitutions parents can transform a typical packed lunch into a delicious yet nutritional powerhouse. And when it's done properly, kids won't miss a thing. A few tips:

- * Swap white bread and tortillas for whole wheat.
- * Replace high-calorie spreads with lower-calorie versions, and/or mustard.
- * Think about increasing flavor and texture with healthful additions. Layering veggies on a sandwich really amps up its nutritional content.
- * Consider baked or air-popped treats instead of fried chips.
- * Trail mix, especially one full of healthful nuts and dried fruits, is a great snack that provides lasting energy.
- * Packing a bottle of water like Nestle Pure Life instead of a sugary beverage is a convenient way to help save 145 calories a day. Water keeps kids healthfully hydrated and it can also help maintain concentration and alertness, whether at school or on the playing field.

Did you know that the average American guzzles three sugary drinks a day?

'Much of eating and drinking healthfully starts with simple awareness,' says Bob Greene, fitness trainer to Oprah. 'Caloric intake from beverages is on the rise, as are the health risks associated with diets high in calories.' According to a survey released earlier this year, most Americans realize the number of calories they are knocking back with every sugary drink is just as important as the calories in the food they eat. However, fewer than half of those surveyed rarely pay attention to the caloric content of the drinks they enjoy and serve to their families.

Source: <http://www.bluestoneneighbors.com/tls/?action=article&itemId=3812>

If your property is currently listed with another Real Estate Agent, please disregard this notice.

Mortgage Watch!

Courtesy of:



Eric Hamilton

Phone: (630) 728-7918

Fax: (630) 375-5862

Website: applywitheric.com

E-mail: eric.hamilton@wellsfargo.com



Current Interest Rates

Conventional 30-year fixed 5.000%

Conventional 15-year fixed 4.250%

Conventional 5-year ARM 3.500%

FHA 30-year Fixed 4.750%

APR's vary with each individual loan.



Local Homes for Sale

<http://1717avalon.ePropertySites.com>



1717 Avalon, Joliet

\$164,900

<http://748daltonlane.ePropertySites.com>



Somersetfield -
748 Dalton Ln.
- Monticello Model

\$345,210

Check these out!

<http://1482glensidedr.ePropertySites.com>



Somersetfield -
1482 Glenside Dr.
- Durham model

Under Contract



Culinary Corner

Shrimp and Chicken Etouffee

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 pound andouille sausage, diced
- 3 pounds skin-on, bone-in chicken thighs
- Kosher salt
- 1/2 cup plus 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 4 stalks celery, diced
- 1 large onion, diced
- 1 green bell pepper, chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 4 cups low-sodium chicken broth
- 1 pound medium shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 2 tablespoons dry sherry
- Freshly ground black pepper

Directions

Heat a large pot over medium-high heat. Add the vegetable oil and andouille and cook, stirring, until crisp, 4 to 5 minutes. Transfer to a plate. Season the chicken with salt, then add to the pot in batches to brown, 5 minutes per side. Transfer to the plate with the andouille.

Make the roux: Remove the pot from the heat and cool slightly (there should be about 1/4 cup drippings; drain or add oil as needed). Return the pot to medium heat. Sprinkle in the flour and stir, scraping up the browned bits from the pan with a wooden spoon. Continue to cook, stirring, until the mixture smells nutty and turns a deep brown, 10 to 12 minutes. Add the celery, onion, bell pepper, garlic, cayenne, and salt to taste. Cook, stirring, until the vegetables are tender, 6 to 8 minutes.

Whisk in the broth. Return the chicken and andouille to the pot and simmer until the chicken is cooked through, about 25 minutes. Transfer the chicken to a plate and let cool slightly while the stew simmers; remove the skin and shred the meat. Return the meat to the pot. Stir in the shrimp and sherry and cook until the shrimp turn pink, 2 to 3 more minutes. Season with salt and black pepper.

<http://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/food-network-kitchens/shrimp-and-chicken-etouffee-recipe/index.html>



6th Annual Somerfield & Fields of Bradford Easter Egg Hunt



Sponsored by

Donna Hahn of Keller Williams Realty,

Eric Hamilton of Wells Fargo Home Mortgage,

Connie Butcher Attorney at Law

Place: Somerfield's Sunset Park (Dalton Lane & Scarlet Dr..)

When: Saturday, April 16th, 2011

Weather permitting, No Rain Date!

If Raining please plan on Picking up your child's treat bag under the Park Pavilion at 11:00 am

Who may participate: Children or Grandchildren who live in either of the subdivisions (due to the amount of children participating we must restrict who may attend, thank you for your understanding)

Time: 11:00 a.m. Sharp

Age Groups: 1 - 3, 4 - 6 and 7-11

You MUST sign up for this event by **March 27th** to ensure I have enough eggs for all, to REGISTER go to estatesofsomerfield.com and click on the link. Please bring a basket for your child to put their eggs in, we again will be asking for the eggs back afterwards. Any donations of candy this year would be greatly appreciated, will need it by March 19th.

I will be in need of helpers to stuff eggs, we will stuff on Sunday, April 3rd at my house 12:00 pm until done, if you would like to help please contact me at 630-759-4839 ASAP! PLEASE we need LOTS of Help!

brought to you by:



Connie J. Butcher

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Cell Phone: 630-605-7781

Areas of Practice

Real Estate, Personal Injury,

Worker's Compensation,

Wills/Trust, Family Law

source:
http://realtymtimes.com/rtpages/20101222_selling.htm

Deciding to sell?

Deciding whether or not to sell your house can be a trying time. Many questions pervade your mind. "Is now the best time to make a move?" "Will I make money from this sale?" "Will a move disrupt my family's routine?" There are numerous factors that come into play when making this decision. Let's look at just a few to consider.

First and foremost, can you afford to make a move? In many areas of the country, home values fell dramatically during the recession. Homeowners across the nation now find themselves owing more than their home is worth. If you find yourself in this predicament, it is probably not the best time for you to move. If you are able to afford your payments and have no fear of defaulting, then it will be best to stick it out for a while longer, waiting for your home to regain some of its lost value.

Along those same lines is the topic of job stability. Do you have money saved for down payments and closing costs, as well as an 8 month emergency fund should you get laid off?

Next, consider the impact the move will have on your family. Do you have children? Moving during the middle of a semester can be difficult for children. Will you be able to move and stay in the same school district? If not, they will be coming into a new school in the middle of activities, after bonds and friendships have been established. Timing is everything when it comes to moving with children.

Additionally, research has shown that having strong social relationships can lengthen your lifespan. Consider this strongly before you move away from family and friends. Or consider it as motivation for moving closer if you live far away!

What if you need to move for your health. Warmer climates, less humidity, and even a change of settings can be a boost to some people's health. Some seniors find cold winters too hard on their older bodies. A move for health is always a good decision, since without our health we have nothing. The bottom line is this. Moving means changing routines, hobbies, and even friends. Be sure to evaluate your decision carefully, weighing all of your options, before jumping into a life changing decision.

Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle Your Closet

It's really no secret. We are a nation of consumers. Watch television for just one evening and you'll know of a dozen sales and promotions happening in your local area. Whether it's retail or sale, there are more than a handful of us that have consumed our ways to a stuffed closet.

Call it early Spring cleaning. Call it a simplification. Organizing and cleaning out your closet can be a great selling tip, because buyers do and will open your closet during a walk-through. And one stuffed to the rafters will appear small and cramped, no matter it's real size.

There is, however, the altruistic side. Today there is an unemployment rate of nearly 10 percent. This translates into around 15 million unemployed Americans. That is why it is important to lend a helping hand to members of your community. Unemployed families still need clothes, even after the paychecks stop.

Reduce: Consider what it is that you really need. Do you have clothes that don't fit? How about clothes and shoes that you really don't need? Are there items that aren't your "style" anymore?

Many of us like to hold onto clothes that we think we might wear again. But use this rule of thumb. If you haven't worn it in the last year, then it is time to donate.

Reuse: Resist the urge to refill your closet once you've downsized! "But what about that new pair of boots I've been eyeing?" you say. Find creative ways to reuse items you have already bought. You may be surprised at how much variety you have in your closet when you rely on what you already have. And for those green activists out there, the fewer new items you buy, the less you consume. Every item that is manufactured takes a toll on the economy, through the power used to run the factories, chemicals and oil used to create certain fabrics, and even the gas it takes to ship items to the store.

Recycle: Start locally. Do you have relatives or friends who would welcome children's clothes? Kids grow fast and many families are struggling to afford bigger sizes. Most communities have local thrift, Goodwill, or Salvation Army stores that will gladly take your donations.

There's also a great site called thredup.com that allows you to exchange kids clothes with families from all across the country. Traders can get a box of clothes for only the cost of shipping at \$5.

Adults need donations, as well. Job interviews and changing seasons may put many adults at a disadvantage. Donation means your old piece of clothing can be given a new home.

Cleaning out your closets is a winning situation. It's good for the community, good for sellers, and of course, it's good for the environment! So start your closet on a reduce, reuse, recycle diet today!

source: http://realtymtimes.com/rtpages/20110120_reduce.htm



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For a tour or more information,
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~Michelle Perlins,
Bolingbrook, IL



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